

Primitive Firearms

Legal primitive firearms must meet the following requirements: 1) rifles that load exclusively from the muzzle or cap and ball cylinder, .44 caliber minimum, use black powder or approved substitute only, take ball or bullet projectile only, including sabot bullets, and in-line muzzleloaders, 2) single shot, breech loading rifles, .38 caliber or larger of any kind or type manufactured prior to 1900 and replicas, reproductions, or reintroductions of that type of rifle having an exposed hammer that uses metallic cartridges loaded with black powder or modern smokeless powder. All of the above may be fitted with magnified scopes.

Ammunition

Possession of lead shot, buckshot, or any shotgun ammunition other than approved, non-toxic shot is prohibited on the refuge. Lead center-fire bullets and lead rifled slugs are permitted during the quota gun deer hunt. Lead bullets may also be used during the muzzleloader hunt.

Big Game Regulations

Archery Season

Archery hunting for deer is allowed on the refuge during the specified season in this brochure. **One deer harvested per day is allowed.**

Quota Deer Hunts

Applicants will be selected by random drawing for the quota hunts. Successful applicants will be notified by mail by September 16, 2012. Successful applicants will also need an Annual Public Use Permit in their possession to participate in the quota hunts. Only hunters chosen for the quota hunt are allowed on the refuge during quota hunts.

Muzzleloader Deer Quota Hunt

Only legal muzzleloading rifles may be used during the muzzleloader deer gun quota hunt. Hunter orange requirements apply to all hunters. **One deer harvested per day is allowed.**

Gun Deer Quota Hunt

Hunter orange requirements apply to all hunters. **One deer harvested per day is allowed.**

Small Game Regulations

Waterfowl

Waterfowl hunting is open refuge wide on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday until noon during the state season. Blinds and decoys used for waterfowl hunting must be removed daily by 1 pm. Hunting with dogs for waterfowl is allowed during the waterfowl season. No early teal season.

Woodcock

Hunters may use approved non-toxic shot and adhere to state season and harvest limits. Hunting with dogs for woodcock is allowed.

Rabbit and Squirrel

The use of dogs for rabbit and squirrel hunting is only allowed during a specific portion of the season. Hunters must verify season dates in this brochure regarding the use dogs on the refuge.

Incidental Species

Beaver, nutria, coyote, raccoon, and feral hogs may be taken with a legal firearm or archery equipment during any open hunting season. Hunters must have a valid refuge permit and any state required licenses to harvest incidental species. State bag limits apply to harvest of coyotes, beaver, raccoon, or feral hogs. Harvest of bobcats is not allowed.

Sport Fishing Regulations

Fishermen may enter the refuge ½ hour before sunrise and must exit the refuge no later than ½ hour after sunset.

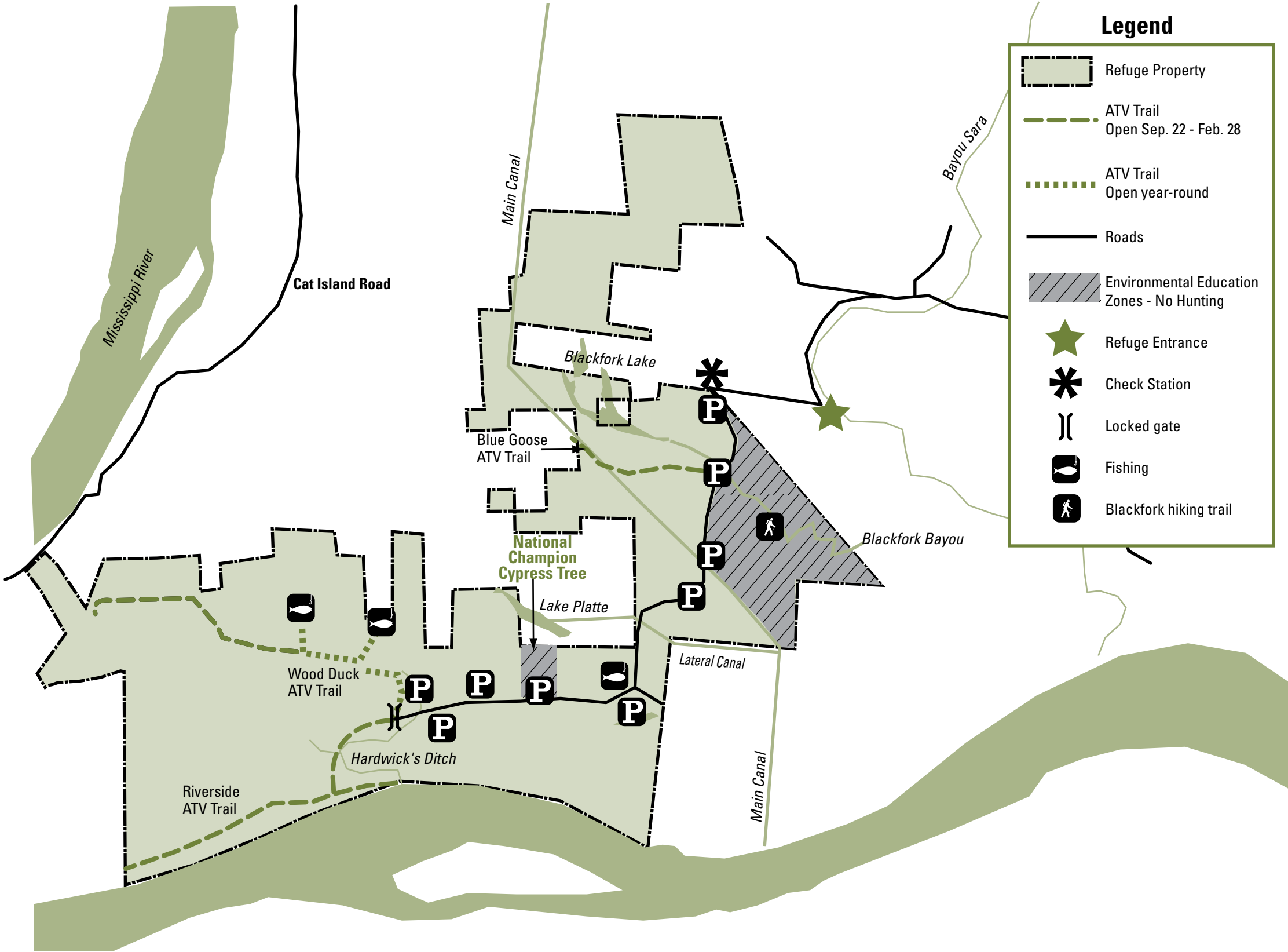
Fishermen must have a valid Refuge Annual Public Use Permit and any applicable state licenses in their possession. Fishing is permitted on the refuge throughout the year from legal sunrise to legal sunset only, except that fishing is closed during quota muzzleloader and rifle deer hunts. Fish species allowed for harvest under state regulations may be included in the daily state creel limit. State fish bag and size limits apply. Possession of cleaned or processed fish on the refuge is prohibited. No harvest of frogs or turtles is permitted on the refuge. **No slat traps, hoop nets, trotlines or yo-yos are permitted on the refuge.**

Appropriate State licenses and State recreational gear licenses are required. Use of gear or equipment other than hook and line or cast nets to catch bait fish is prohibited.

Recreational crawfishing is permitted on the refuge with either traps or nets from March 16 - July 31, 2013. The harvest limit is 50 pounds per person per day. All traps and nets must be attended at all times and may not be left on the refuge overnight. Parking is only permitted in designated parking areas and immediately adjacent to roadways designated on map.

The minimum mesh size for crawfish traps must be a hexagon of three-quarters by eleven-sixteenths of one inch (measured from wire to wire, not including coating). A State recreational gear license and a refuge Annual Public Use Permit is required in addition to other State licensing requirements to harvest crawfish with traps on the refuge. Traps (including all traps in possession of the angler) must be marked with a waterproof tag with the name and State recreational gear license number of the fisherman legibly printed on the tag. Only 20 traps per angler are permitted on the refuge at the same time. Crawfish nets are permitted on the refuge.

Cat Island National Wildlife Refuge



Threatened Louisiana Black Bears

Please be aware that the threatened Louisiana black bear listed under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 occurs throughout the refuge. Numerous conservation agencies have worked cooperatively in an effort to restore this majestic species. Because feral hogs and black bears can be difficult to distinguish in heavy cover, it is critical that all hunters positively identify their target before they attempt to harvest a feral hog. It is unlawful for anyone to take, harass, disturb, etc. any Louisiana black bear. Criminal penalty: up to \$50,000 fine and 1 year imprisonment.

For information on Mississippi River stages go to: <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/riverstage/bullet.text>

How to Apply for a Quota Hunt:

Applications for lottery issued permits will be accepted from July 1 until 4 pm on September 21, 2012.

Mail the following information on a standard 3"x5" card for each hunt to
St. Catherine Creek NWR
Attn: Cat Island Quota Hunt
PO Box 217
Sibley MS 39165

- Hunt type (Gun or Muzzleloader)
- Your name
- Complete mailing address
- Telephone number
- \$5 application fee (per person, per hunt application). Money order only, payable to US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Signature
- You may only apply once per hunt (Submit one card per person, per hunt)
- To be considered a group (up to 5 individuals), each individual must submit their information on separate cards that are then stapled together

2012-2013 Hunting Seasons

Type	Season	Specific Regulations
Squirrel	State Season	Closed during muzzleloader and gun deer quota hunts. Dogs permitted January 19, 2013 to end of State squirrel season. No Spring season.
Rabbit	State Season	Closed during muzzleloader and gun deer quota hunts. Dogs permitted January 19, 2013 to end of State rabbit season.
Deer-Archery	State Season	One, either-sex deer per day. Closed during muzzleloader and gun deer quota hunts. State bag limit applies. All deer taken must be checked at the deer check station.
Deer-Muzzleloader	November 9-11, 2012	Special Quota Permit Required One, either-sex deer per hunt, hunter orange hat and vest required.
Deer-Gun	December 14-16, 2012	Special Quota Permit Required One, either-sex deer per hunt, hunter orange hat and vest required.
Waterfowl	Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday until noon during State waterfowl season	Closed during muzzleloader and gun deer quota hunts. Boats, blinds, and decoys must be removed by 1 pm daily. Non-toxic shot only. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.
Woodcock	State Season	Closed during muzzleloader and gun deer quota hunts. Non-toxic shot required.

Completion of Daily Use Reporting Cards required for all refuge activities including quota hunts.